

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 SCCT-01 IO-10 /071 W

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4129

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUANDA 1334

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI AO

SUBJECT: ROUNDUP SEPTEMBER 9 - LUANDA

1. IN ITS MILITARY BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 8, MPLA SAID WITH
RESPECT TO THE CAXITO FRONT ONLY THAT ARTILLERY ATTACKS ON FNLA
CONTINUED. A PORTUGUESE MILITARY SOURCE TOLD ME, HOWEVER,
THAT THEY BELIEVE MPLA MAY BE MOUNTING A MAJOR OFFENSIVE
FROM EAST OF CAXITO, USING TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT FROM ITS
BASE AT PIRI. THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION SAID PRIVATELY
ON SEPTEMBER 9 THAT MPLA HAD TAKEN CAXITO AND THAT
AGOSTINHO NETO WOULD ANNOUNCE THE CAPTURE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE
AT 1600.

2. THE NEW DIRECTORS GENERAL THAT ARE TO TAKE THE PLACE OF
ABSENT MINISTERS IN THE GOVERNMENT WERE SWORN IN AT THE
HIGH COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 8. IN A BRIEF SPEECH
AT THE CEREMONY, HIGH COMMISSIONER ADMIRAL CARDOSO ASKED
THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT NOT LOOK UPON HIM AS A
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HIGH COMMISSIONER TO WHOM MORE POWERS WERE GIVEN,

BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT GIVEN WITH THE IDEA OF ROBBING THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ITS AUTHORITY, BUT RATHER OUT OF BUREAUCRATIC NECESSITY TO COPE WITH A COMPLEX AND DELICATE SITUATION. HIS ROLE, HE SAID, WILL BE TO ORIENT (DISCIPLINAR) AND COORDINATE THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT. HE WILL USE THE GREATER POWERS GRANTED HIM ONLY WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

3. IN A SPEECH ON SEPTEMBER 8. AGOSTINHO NETO STAKED OUT A THIRD WORLD POSITION INDEPENDENT OF THE STRUGGLES BETWEEN USSR AND CHINA AND OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST. NITO ALVES, THE HARD LINER IN THE MPLA, SOUNDS A BIT MORE MODERATE THESE DAYS. MPLA APPEALED ON SEPTEMBER 8 FOR THE WHITES WHO HAD LEFT MALANGE TO RETURN. I WILL REPORT FULLY ON THESE ITEMS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

KILLORAN

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Message Attributes

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